

Amendment to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing the amount of ammonia compounds affixed to fly ash, the method comprising:

introducing an amount of fly ash into a heating chamber, at least a portion of the amount of fly ash comprising particulates having ammonia compounds affixed to the particulates;

exposing the amount of fly ash to flowing air having a temperature of at least 1,500°F;

transferring heat from gases exiting the heating chamber to preheat a second amount of fly ash, at least a portion of the second amount of fly ash comprising particulates having ammonia compounds affixed to the particulates;

introducing the second amount of fly ash into the heating chamber; and

exposing the second amount of fly ash to flowing air having a temperature of at least 1,500°F.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:

the amount of fly ash is maintained in the flowing air until the amount of fly ash reaches a temperature of at least 900°F.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

measuring an in process ash temperature of the amount of fly ash when the amount of fly ash is exposed to the flowing air; and

removing at least a portion of the amount of fly ash being exposed to the flowing air when the measured in process ash temperature reaches at least 900°F.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
preheating the amount of fly ash to a temperature of at least 300°F before exposing the amount of fly ash to the flowing air.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the second amount of fly ash is preheated to a temperature of at least 300°F.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
removing particulate material from the flowing air after heat has been recovered from the flowing air.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising:
maintaining the flowing air above 400°F when particulate material is removed from the flowing air.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

recovering heat from the particulate material after the particulate material has been removed from the flowing air.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising:
using the heat recovered from the particulate material to preheat the second amount of fly ash.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein:
the second amount of fly ash is preheated to a temperature of at least 300°F.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
recovering heat from the amount of fly ash after the amount of fly ash has been exposed to the flowing air.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising:
using the heat recovered from the amount of fly ash to preheat the second amount of fly ash.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein:
the second amount of fly ash is preheated to a temperature of at least 300°F.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of exposing the amount of fly ash to flowing air comprises:

providing a metal media having openings;
passing flowing air through the openings; and
depositing the amount of fly ash on the metal media.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein:
the openings are 10 microns or less.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein:
the flowing air is passed through the openings at greater than 0 to about 10 cubic
feet per minute.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
measuring an in process ash temperature of the amount of fly ash when the
amount of fly ash is exposed to the flowing air; and
controlling a flow rate of the flowing air in response to the measured in process
ash temperature.

Claims 20-41. (Cancelled)